



THE PEACE TABLE AND AFTER

NO. 1
PEACE TERMS MUST MAKE VICTORY REAL



THE SLAV LANDS OF CENTRAL EUROPE.
(Map Showing Racial Distribution and Proposed New Boundaries.)

By CLARENCE L. SPEND
(Written for and approved by the War Committee of the Union League Club of Chicago.)

The war is won. The armistice has been signed. The German military machine has been crushed. The world has been freed from the immediate threat of German conquest or domination. The peoples of Europe and America once more may breathe freely.

Nevertheless the greater part of the task for which the allied nations were fighting remains to be accomplished. It must be accomplished at the peace table. The delegates who sit there must fix the terms of a lasting peace. Unless they do this all the sacrifices in blood and treasure of the United States and the other nations which fought autocracy will have been in vain and the world will have to live in constant fear of future wars.

Must Establish Just Peace.
The task of the diplomats is to establish a peace which will come as near as possible to doing absolute justice to all the peoples concerned. In so far as human wisdom will permit the framers of the treaty must remove

the causes of friction which brought the war about so that the world will not have to live under the constant menace of future aggression. They must readjust boundaries, not as national pride or prejudice would dictate, but on the basis of full justice to the inhabitants of the territories involved. If they do not the world war with all its misery and all its sacrifices will have been in vain.

The representatives of the allies at the peace conference will find many obstacles in their way. Some of these will come from the German side, the diplomats of the central powers seeking always to retain as much as possible of the unfair advantages their governments had before the war and of the gains they made during the early part of the struggle. Other obstacles—possibly the greatest—may come from the conflicting aspirations of the nations which have fought on the allied side.

Compromises Are Likely.
All of these must be harmonized. Compromises, no doubt, will have to be made in some instances, but the ends of justice must always be kept first in mind. If this is not done the peace settlements will be like other settlements which have ended wars in the past. The rights of peoples will be subordinated to the desires of rulers and the treaty of peace will be only a stepping stone to strife.

The destinies of, roughly speaking, a hundred million persons who, at the beginning of the war, either had no separate political rights or were inhabitants of nations so small as to have little weight in European councils, must be fixed around the peace table. These people are mostly of Slavic stock. They embrace the Letts, Lithuanians, Poles, Czechoslovaks, Little Russians or Ukrainians, Rumanians and Jugos-Slavs, including the heroic Serbians.

Slav Lands Suffer Much.
All of these lands, shown on the map above, have suffered cruelly from the war—more cruelly than during the weary ages which preceded it. All must first be fed or their desperate populations may be driven to anarchy. All must be helped to establish order and guided along the path of self-government. All must be given financial and economic assistance until they are able to stand on their feet.

If this is not done it is certain that all of these lands will, in time, again fall into the clutches of Germany. It will not do to conclude that Germany, because her armies for the moment are defeated and disorganized, no longer is to be considered a factor in the economic and political life of the world.

Socialists Are Pan-Germans.
The German government, at this writing, appears to be under the control of socialist groups who will bitterly oppose any return to the autocratic form. But these same socialist leaders who now direct the German government were at the outbreak of the war and, in fact, up to a very few weeks before its close, just as pan-Germans as the Kaiser himself or his junker advisers who now are so cordially hated.

The workers of Germany—the socialists now in control of the government—must look to the outside world for the raw materials to keep their mills busy and they must likewise look beyond the boundaries of their country for markets in which to sell their surplus production. For fifty years they have been taught this. Further, they have been taught that the way to get supplies of raw materials from abroad is not to buy them, giving their

own manufactured products in return, but to go out and grab the lands which supply them. They also have been taught that the way to open foreign markets to their export trade is not to meet the other nations in fair competition, but to subdue neighboring lands and compel their peoples to purchase German products.

It is not reasonable to believe that these German industrial workers have changed their views overnight—that they would not try even under a socialist government for expansion if they thought there was a chance for success. More than ever before they must depend on the outside world both for their raw materials and their markets, and, defeated though they are, they are likely to try to get these things in the only way they know—by force.

Seek to Push Trade.
This powerful industrial Germany, governed by socialists who must work or starve, who must get raw materials from abroad and sell their finished wares abroad, will be the nearest neighbor of the newly established Slav lands. These lands will furnish the best sources of raw material and the best markets for goods "made in Germany."

It is certain, therefore, that Germany, under its new government, will make every effort to monopolize the trade of these lands, to keep them from progressing industrially to a point where they would rival industrial Germany, and finally to reduce them to such economic dependence that political servitude might easily follow when the time is ripe.

The allied nations have it in their power at the peace table to see that these new nations are firmly established. It is their plain duty, thereafter, to see that proper support, moral and

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| Butter |60 |
| Potatoes |1.25 |

| | |
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| MEATS | |
| ogs alive |1.10 |
| ogs, dressed |1.10 |
| veal, alive |7-10 |
| calves, alive |12 to 1 |
| sheep, alive |12 |
| lams, alive |12 |
| HAY—PRICES PAID FARMER | |
| heat, No. 1, red |2.1 |
| heat, No. 2, white |2.1 |
| |1 |
| oats |65 |
| arley, per cwt. |8.00 |
| beans, per cwt. |8.00 |
| HAY AND STRAW | |
| Timothy hay, baled, per cwt. |1.70 |
| straw, Rye, baled, per cwt. |80 |
| FEEDS—RETAIL | |
| bran, per cwt. |1.70 |
| Middlings, per cwt. |1.80 |
| Cracked corn, per cwt. |2.90 |
| Cracked oat, per cwt. |3.00 |
| Corn and oat chop, per cwt. |2.80 |

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financial, and, if necessary, military, is accorded them in order that they may become real barriers against Germany's greed. No one nation, it is evident, can take up this burden alone. Something like a league of nations, unselfish and powerful, undoubtedly must fulfill this duty, because, if the newly created states are left to themselves it is by no means certain that they will not soon fall again under the control of a revived and reconstructed Germany, thereby made powerful enough once more to attempt to throttle the world.

Musical Note.
A London electrician has invented a safe that is unlocked by a tuning fork, the vibrations of which cause a wire within the safe to vibrate in harmony with them and operate the mechanism electrically.

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